

What is claimed is:

1. A method for controlling a motor of a vehicle, the method comprising:

determining the rpm of said motor and a quantity representing a command of the driver of the vehicle;

5 determining a reference rpm of said motor at the start of a withdrawal of said command by the driver; and,

limiting the rpm of said motor to said reference rpm when the driver withdraws said command.

2. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of deriving the withdrawal of said command of the driver from the position of the accelerator pedal or from the position of the throttle flap.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the limiting of said rpm is active with shifting operations.

4. The method of claim 1, comprising the further steps of:

ascertaining the extent of a negative change of said driver command; and,

5 storing a value over a pregiven time up to the end of the negative change of the command of the driver with said value functioning as a weighting quantity for the rpm limiter.

5. The method of claim 1, comprising the further step of storing the current motor rpm as a reference rpm for the rpm limiter when reaching a trigger threshold because of the negative change of the driver command.

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6. The method of claim 4, comprising the further step of returning the weighting quantity for the rpm limiter continuously to zero for a renewed positive command change of the driver.

7. The method of claim 4, comprising the further step of returning or resetting the weighting quantity to zero when the rpm of said motor drops below said reference rpm.

8. The method of claim 4, wherein the weighting quantity is limited to a minimum value.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said rpm limiter reduces at least one of the charge and the ignition angle of the motor.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the rpm limiter triggers suppressions of injections when overrun cutoffs or injection suppressions are permitted.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the rpm limiter generates a torque reducing output signal in dependence upon the deviation of the motor rpm from said reference rpm.

12. An arrangement for controlling a motor of a motor vehicle, the arrangement comprising:

a control unit for determining the rpm of the motor and for determining a quantity representing a command of the driver;

5       said control unit functioning to generate an output signal in dependence upon said rpm and said quantity for controlling said motor;

said control unit including means for determining a

reference rpm at the start of a withdrawal of the command of the driver;

said control unit including means for forming a limiting signal in dependence upon the rpm of said motor and said reference rpm when the command of the driver is withdrawn; and,

said control unit including means for correcting said output signal with said limiting signal.

13. A computer program comprising program code means for carrying out a method for controlling a motor of a vehicle including the steps of determining the rpm of said motor and a quantity representing a command of the driver of the vehicle; determining a reference rpm of said motor at the start of a withdrawal of said command by the driver; and, limiting the rpm of said motor to said reference rpm when the driver withdraws said command.

14. A computer program product comprising program code means which are stored on a computer readable data carrier for carrying out a method for controlling a motor of a vehicle when the program product is executed on a computer, the method including the steps of determining the rpm of said motor and a quantity representing a command of the driver of the vehicle; determining a reference rpm of said motor at the start of a withdrawal of said command by the driver; and, limiting the rpm of said motor to said reference rpm when the driver withdraws said command.